

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

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ANNE MARIE LANGAN
ASSISTANT FISCAL ANALYST
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TO: Deborah Gaskin, Director
Board of Ethics

FROM: Irvin Corley, Jr., Fiscal Analysis Director

DATE: April 21, 2005

RE: 2005-06 Budget Analysis

14.

Attached is our budget analysis regarding your department's budget for the upcoming 2005-2006 Fiscal Year.

Please be prepared to respond to the issues/questions raised in our analysis during your scheduled hearing. We would then appreciate a written response to the issues/questions at your earliest convenience subsequent to your budget hearing. Please forward a copy of your responses to the Councilmembers and the City Clerk's Office.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding our budget analysis.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

IC:cyb

Attachment

cc: Councilmembers
Council Divisions
Auditor General's Office
Sean Werdlow, Chief Financial Officer
Roger Short, Budget Department Director
Ron Chenault, Budget Department Team Leader
Kandia Milton, Mayor's Office

Board of Ethics

FY 2005-2006 Budget Analysis by the Fiscal Analysis Division

In charter Sec. 2-106. Standards of Conduct, the Board of Ethics is established as: "An independent board of ethics is created. The board of ethics shall consist of seven (7) members:

- A. Seven (7) members of the public:
 - 1. Three (3) who shall be appointed by the city council;
 - 2. Three (3) who shall be appointed by the mayor; and
 - 3. One (1) who shall be jointly appointed by the mayor and city council;

"The board of ethics shall issue advisory opinions regarding the meaning and application of provisions of the Charter, city ordinances or other laws or regulations establishing standards of conduct for elective officers, appointees, or employees. Advisory opinions shall be rendered upon written request by an elective officer, appointee, or employee. Advisory opinions shall be published by the board annually in a report to the mayor and city council. The opinions shall not disclose the identity of the elective officers, appointees, or employees concerned."

The funding for the Board of Ethics is included in the Non-Departmental Agency. The 2005-06 recommended budget is \$233,862, a reduction of \$19,567 from the current year.

The cost in employee related accounts is decreasing by \$28,997 representative of the 10% reduction and pension and benefit adjustments. None employee cost accounts are increasing by \$9,430.

ISSUES AND QUESTIONS:

- 1. The Board of Ethics staff moved into its permanent location, 660 Woodward Avenue – First National Building, in July 2004, and became fully operational in August – September 2004. Could you highlight some of the accomplishments and activities completed since the move?
- 2. The Board of Ethics has produced 3 annual reports to date based on a year ending date of April 30th. The next report is expected to be available in May or June of 2005.

3. Does the recommended budget include any funding to increase the public's awareness of the Board of Ethics and the service provided? Can you describe the planned initiatives?
4. Can you briefly summarize the two or three advisory opinions of greatest significant that the Board of Ethics has address since its inception? What advisory opinions over the last fiscal year?
5. In your performance measures, you have indicated that 7 training programs have been conducted in 2003-04, 2004-05, and are planned for 2005-06. Who are these training programs conducted for? Are there any planned training activities for the general public?
6. Are you aware of any public or private funding sources to help finance your activities?

IC:JGP